

Department of Justice

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HOGSETT ANNOUNCES 18 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR VINCENNES MAN FOR POSSESSION, RECEIPT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

More significant results from U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Childhood initiative

PRESS RELEASE

VINCENNES – Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, announced that Jonathan D. Martin, age 29, of Vincennes, has been sentenced to 216 months (18 years) in prison by U.S. District Judge Jane E. Magnus-Stinson following his guilty plea to the following: one count of possession of sexually explicit material involving minors; twelve counts of receipt and distribution of sexually explicit material involving minors; and two counts of posting a notice offering to trade sexually explicit material involving minors.

"This sentence marks the successful completion of yet another prosecution by our nationally-recognized child exploitation team," Hogsett said. "Working with our Project Safe Childhood partners, we are sending a serious message, both here in the Wabash Valley and across the country, that federal law enforcement has zero tolerance for those who endanger and exploit children."

At a hearing held on November 22, 2011, Martin admitted that he downloaded and managed thousands of images depicting sexually explicit conduct by minors. Martin admitted receiving and distributing sexually explicit material involving minors, including still images and videos, using computers, e-mail transmissions, and internet-based file sharing programs.

Martin also admitted that he had posted notices offering to trade child pornography on a web site. An examination of Martin's computer determined that Martin had used file sharing programs to search for and download child pornographic images and to post notices offering to trade child pornography.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Magnus-Stinson also imposed lifetime supervision following Martin's release from prison. During the period of supervised release, Martin must comply with all sex offender registration laws, must not have unsupervised contact with minors, and must submit to examination of any computer devices he uses. Martin was also ordered to forfeit the computer equipment he used in the offense to the United States.

This case was the result of collaborative investigation by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Investigations and the Indiana State Police.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc. For more information about internet safety education, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc and click on the tab "resources."

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